



# THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS

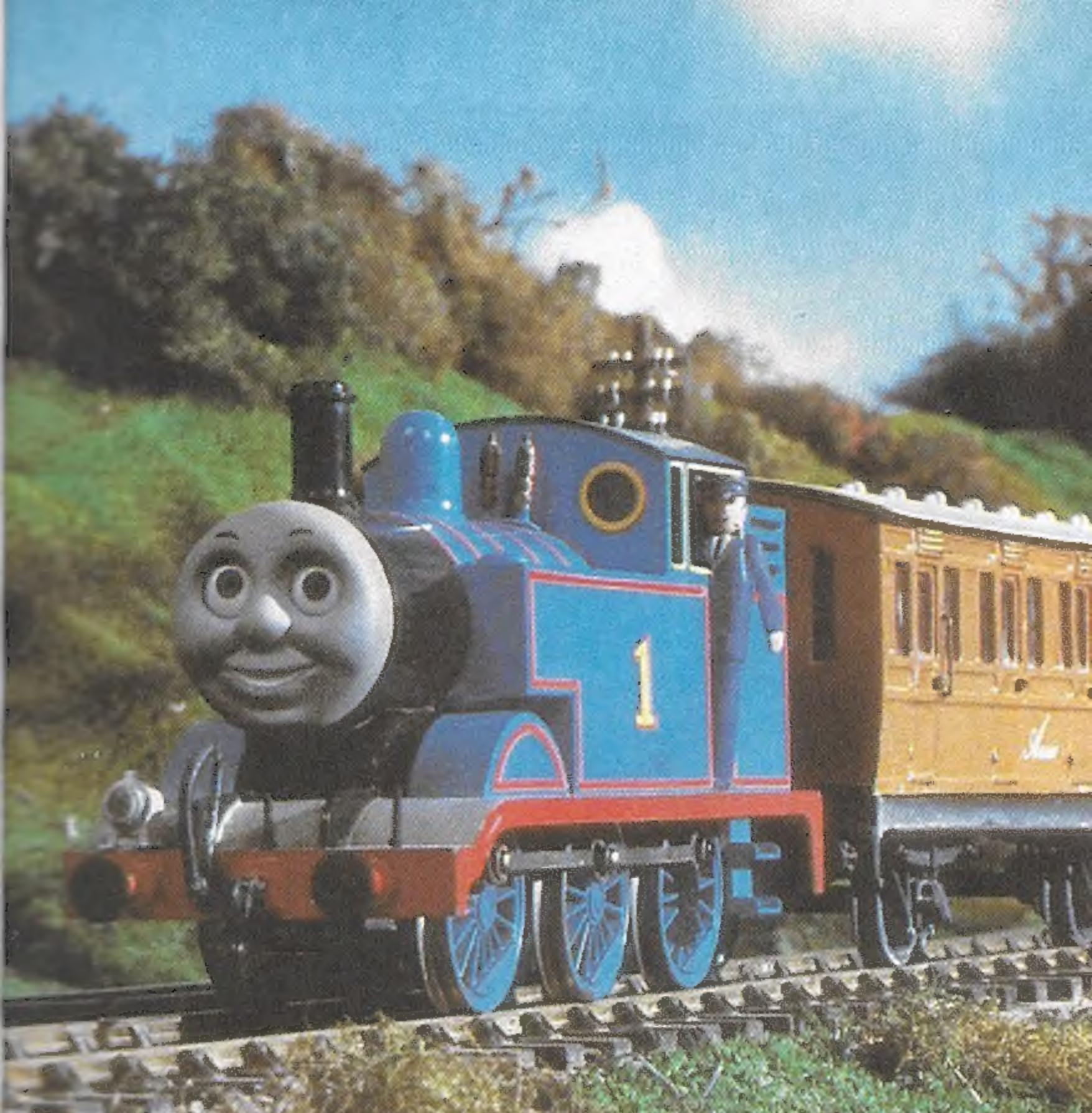
THOMAS & BERTIE

THOMAS  
DOWN THE MINE



Based on *The Railway Series* by The Rev W Awdry

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**THOMAS AND  
BERTIE**

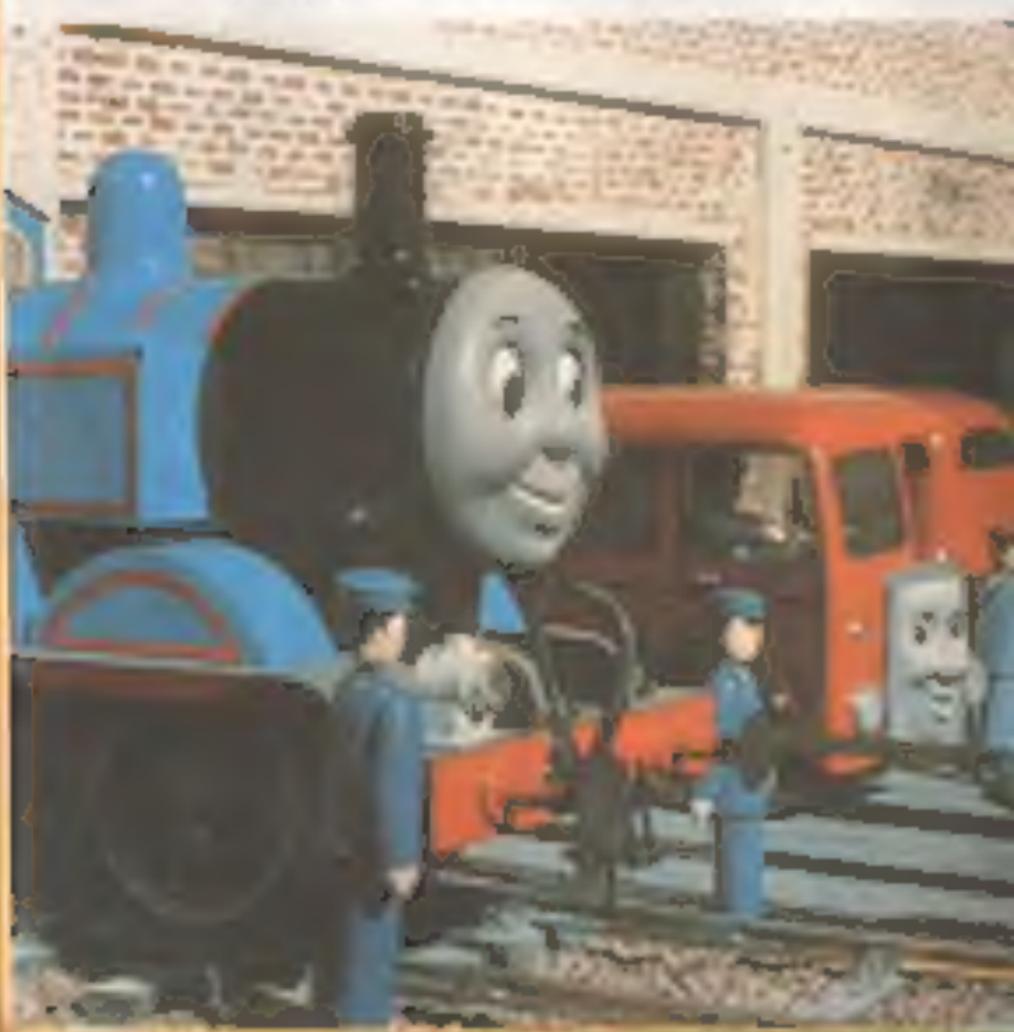
## Thomas and Bertie

One day Thomas was waiting at the junction when a bus came into the yard.

"Hello!" said Thomas. "Who are you?"

"I'm Bertie," said the bus. "Who are you?"

"I'm Thomas. I run this branch line."





Bertie laughed. "Ah - I remember now!" he said. "You were stuck in the snow. I had to take your passengers, then Terence the tractor had to pull you out! I've come to help you with your passengers today."



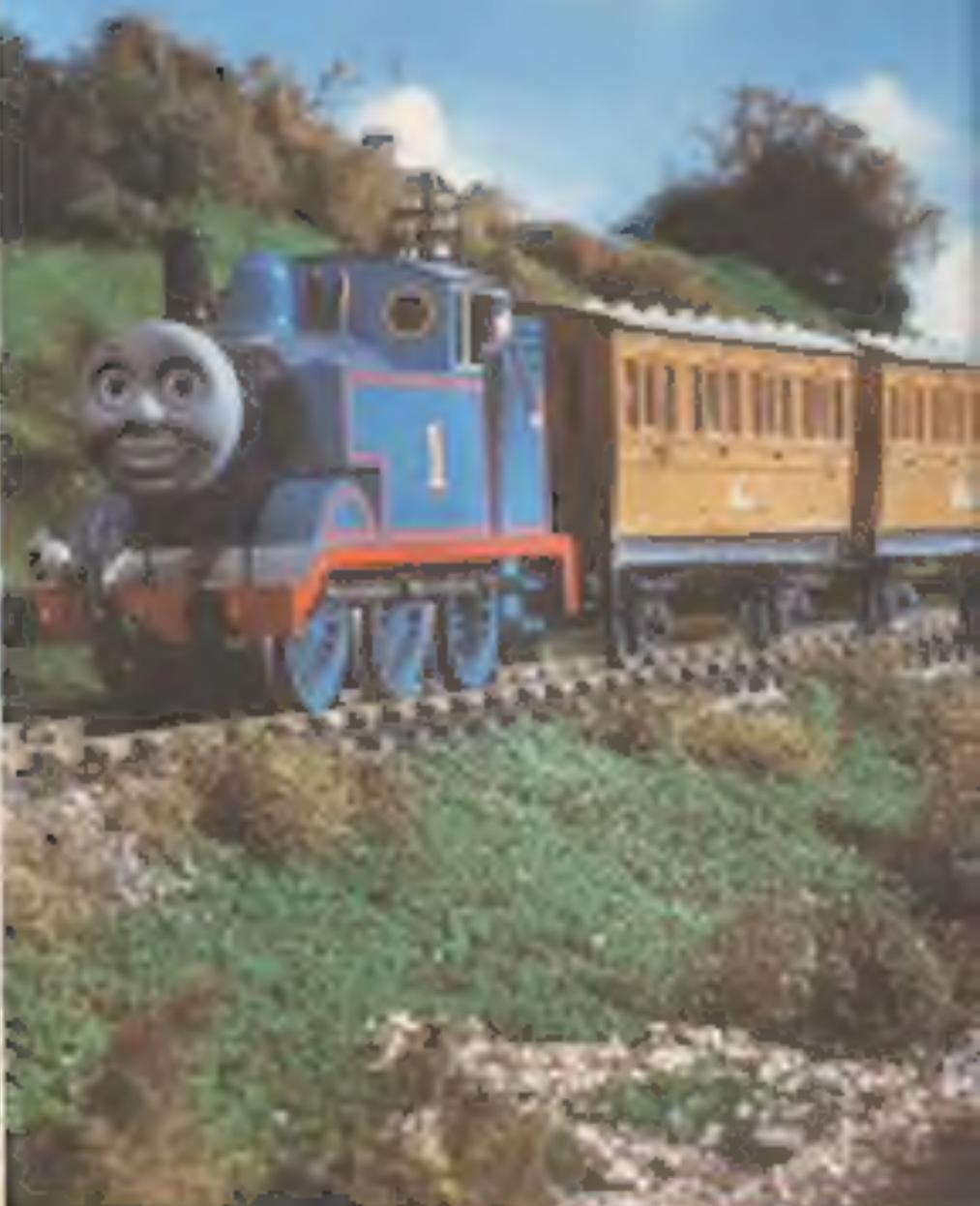
"Help me?" said Thomas, crossly.  
"I can go faster than you," he said, going bluer than ever and letting off steam.  
"You can't," said Bertie.  
"I can," huffed Thomas.



"I'll race you!" said Bertie.

Their drivers agreed to the race. The Station Master shouted, "Are you ready? GO!" – and they were off!

It always took Thomas a little while to build up speed so Bertie quickly drew in front.



Thomas was running well but he did not hurry. "Why don't you go fast? Why don't you go fast?" called Annie and Clarabel, who were running along behind.



"Wait and see. Wait and see," hissed Thomas.

"He's a long way ahead, a long way ahead," they cried, anxiously.



But Thomas didn't mind; he had remembered the level crossing.

There was Bertie fuming at the crossing gates while they sailed gaily through.

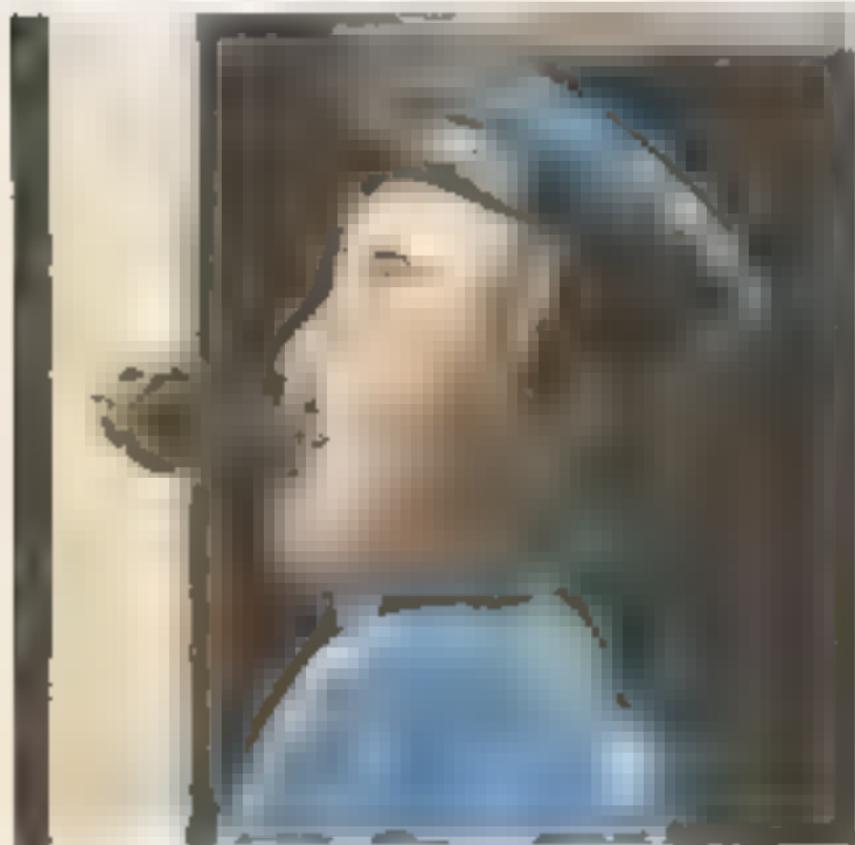


Goodbye Berlie called Thomas

After that the road left the railway and went through a village. They couldn't see Berlie any more.

Before long they had to stop at a station to let off passengers. "Peep, peep, quickly please," called Thomas.

"Everybody got out quickly. The guard blew his whistle and off they went again."



"Come along, come along!" sang Thomas.

"We're coming along! We're coming along!" said Annie and Clarabel.

Thomas looked straight ahead and saw in horror There was Bertie wing the bridge over the railway, triumphantly on his horn!

"Oh dear me Oh dear me" said Thomas





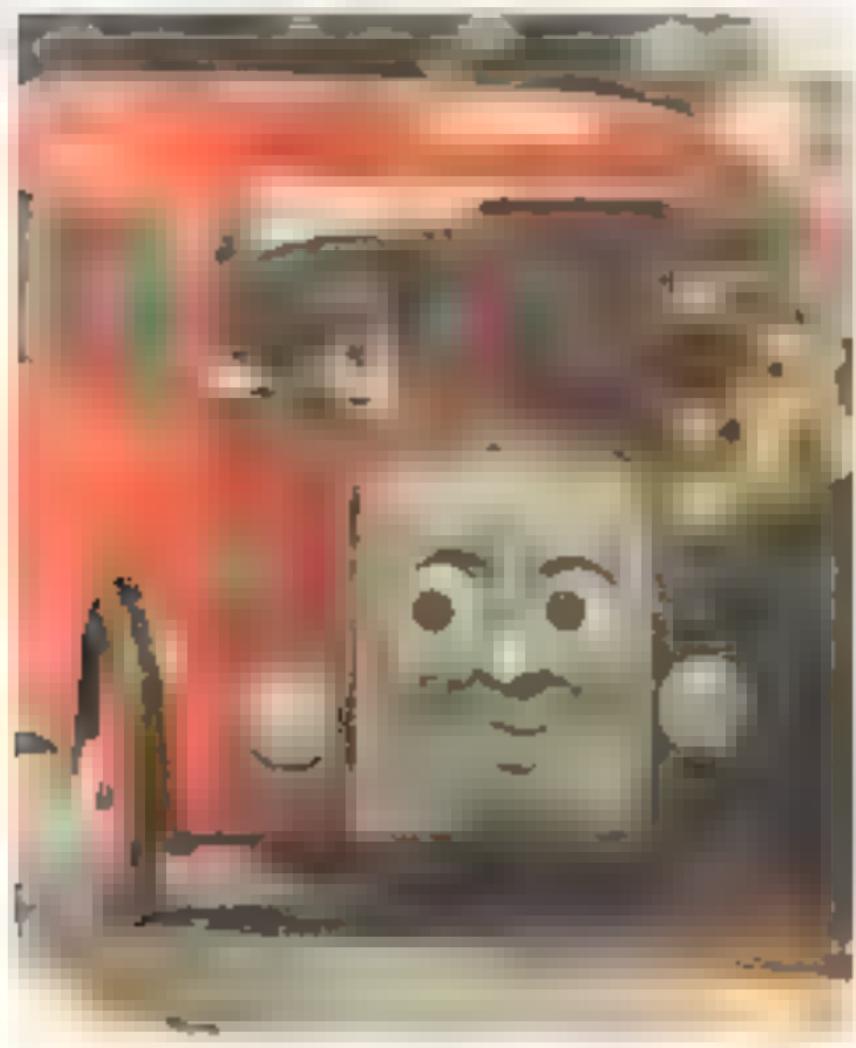
"Steady, Thomas," said Thomas's  
driver. "We'll beat Bertie yet."

Annie and Clarabel joined in. "We'll  
beat Bertie yet! We'll beat Bertie yet!"  
they sang.

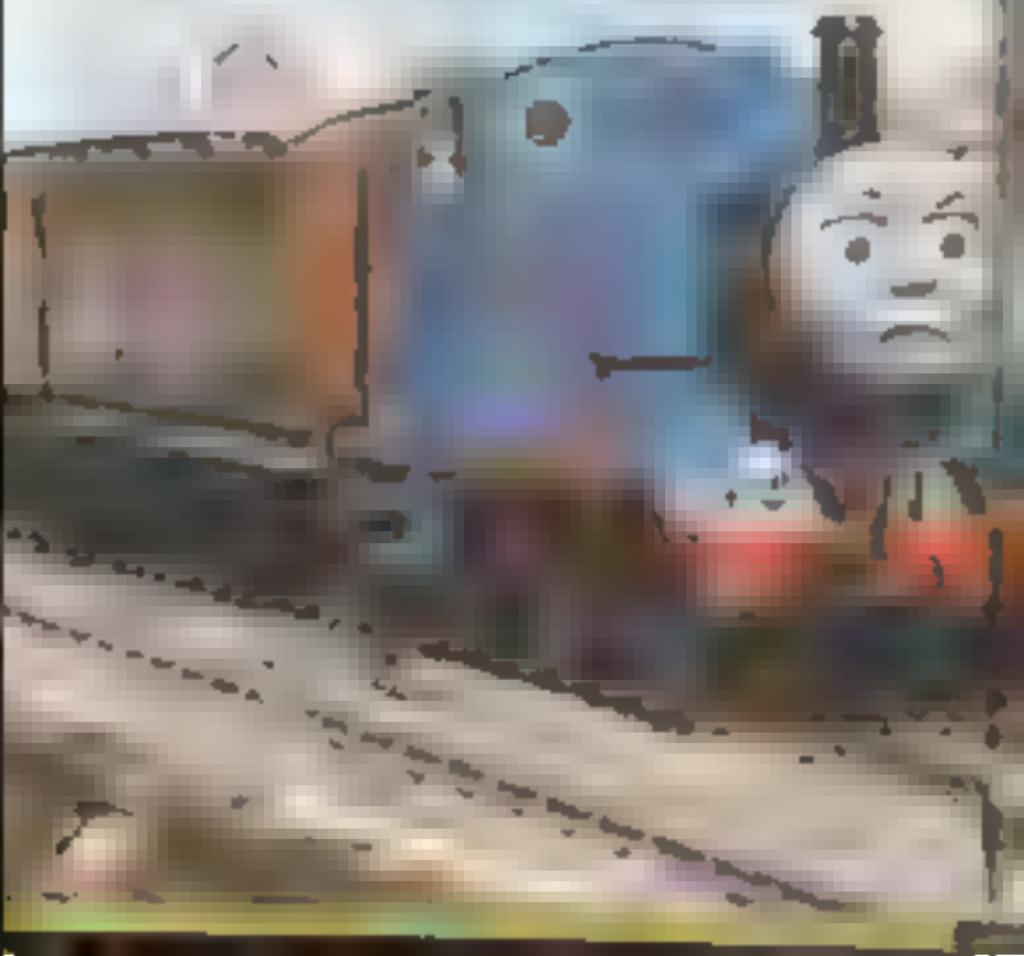
"We'll do it! We'll do it!" puffed  
Thomas, bravely. "Oh bother! There's a  
station."

As Thomas stopped at the station he  
saw Bertie looking out,

Goodbye Thomas You must be  
old called Bertie as he raced by  
Sorry I can't stop we buses have to  
work you know Goodbye

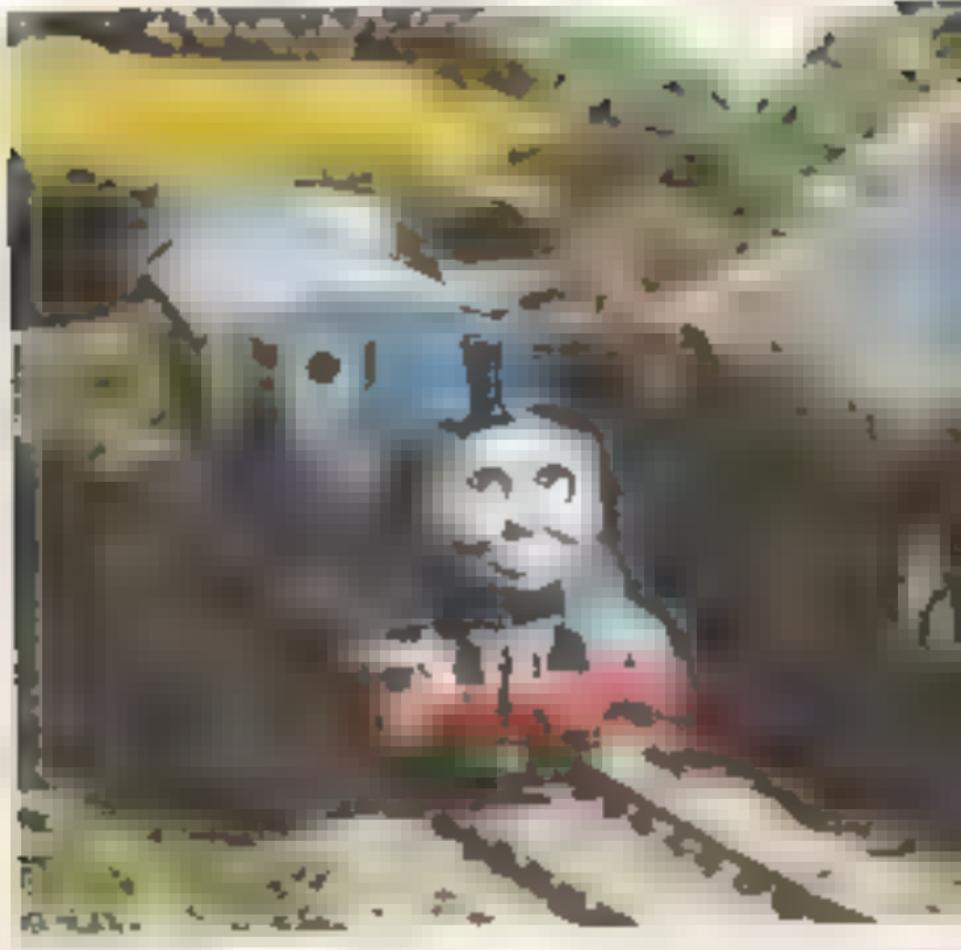


"Oh dear!" thought Thomas. "We've  
met. But he felt better after a drink.  
Then the signal dropped to show that the  
line was clear and they were off again."



As they tumbled over the edge, I saw  
Bertie waiting at the bottom. He  
watched the lights turn red. Bertie  
started with a roar a chain and pulled  
Thomas ages up.





Road and railway ran up the valley side by side. By now Thomas had reached his full speed. Bertie tried hard but Thomas was too fast.

On and on they raced. Excited passengers cheered and shouted across the valley as Thomas whistled triumphantly and plunged into the tunnel, leaving Bertie toiling far behind.



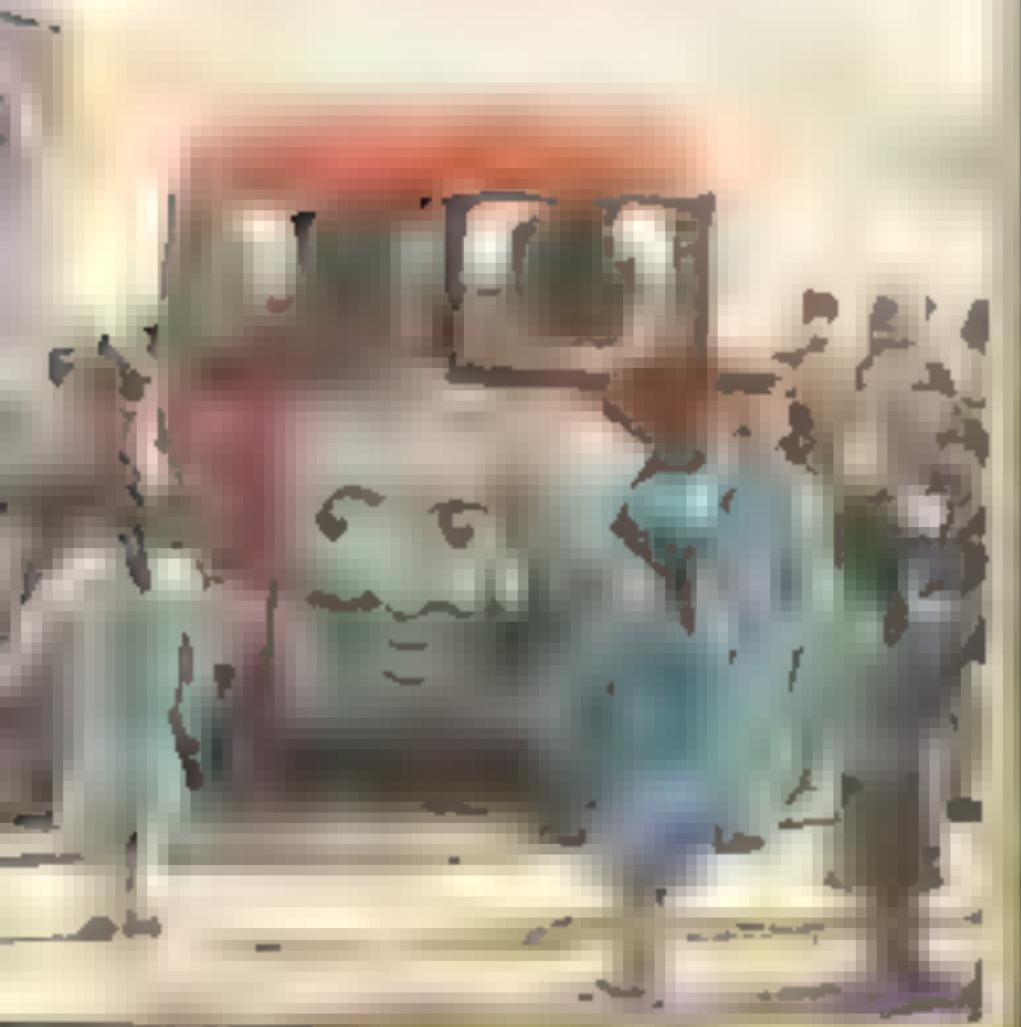
We've done it! We've done it!  
Chanted Annise and Clarabe happily as  
they whooshed into the last stanza.

Everybody was there to give Thomas  
three cheers for winning the race. They  
all gave Bertie a big welcome too.

"Well done, Thomas!" said Bertie.  
That was fun. But to beat you over that  
hill would have had to grow wings and  
be an aeroplane."



Now Thomas and Bertie keep each other very busy. Bertie finds people in villages who want to go by train and gets them to Thomas, while Thomas gets people to the station for Bertie to take home.



Bertie and Thomas often talk about their race. But Bertie's passengers don't like being bounced like peas in a frying pan.



The Fat Controller has warned Thomas not to race at dangerous speeds. So although Thomas and Bertie would like to have another race, I don't think they ever will. Do you?

# THOMAS DOWN THE MINE



## Thomas down the mine

One day Thomas was at the junction  
when Gordon shunted in with some trucks.

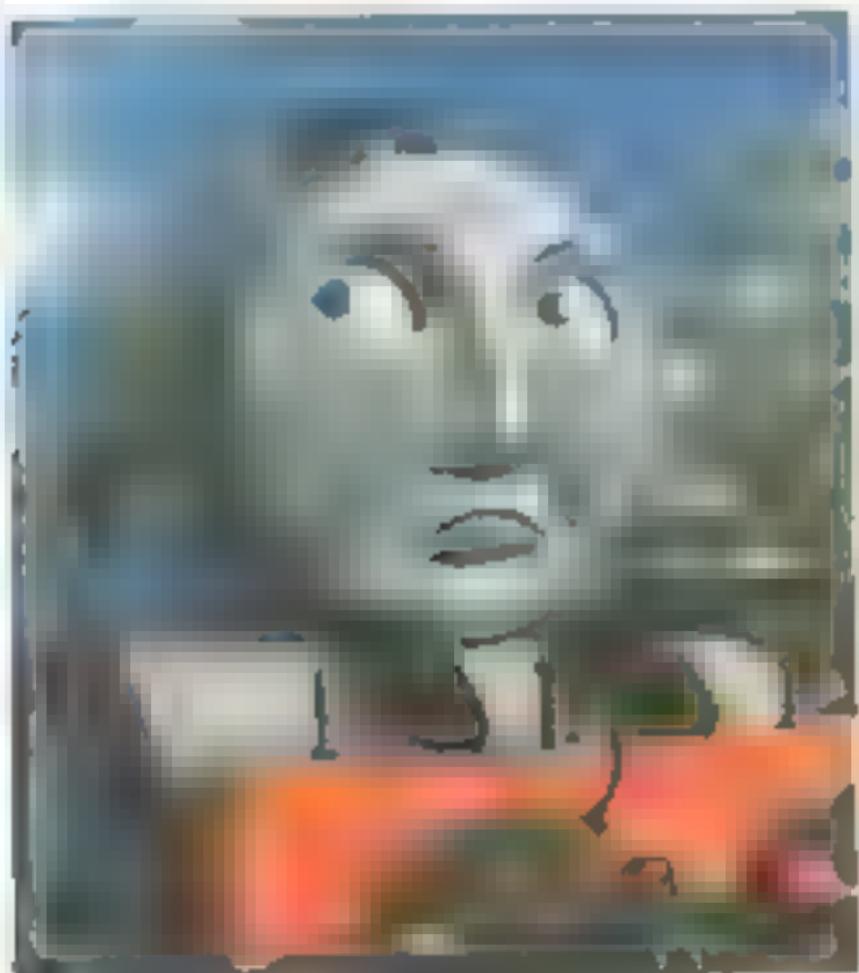
"Poot!" said Thomas. "What a funny  
smell! Can you smell a smell?"

"I can't smell a smell!" said Annie.



"It's a funny, musty sort of smell," said  
Tom.

No one noticed that you did.  
United Gordon. "It must be yours!" Not  
long ago Gordon had fallen into a dirt  
hole. He knew that Thomas was teasing  
him about it.

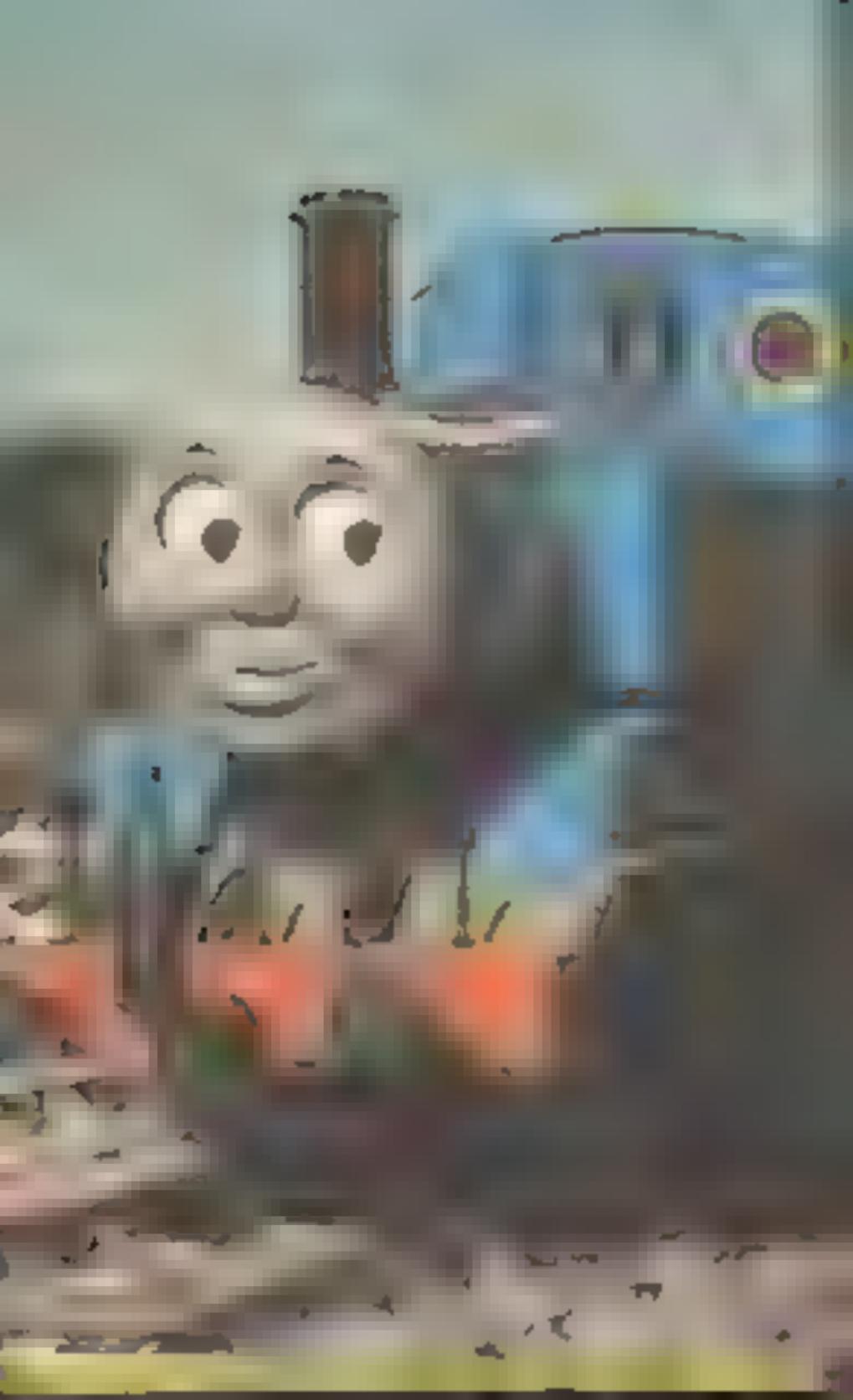


Annie and Charabel do you know what I think it is?" said Thomas. "It's Mr. Swallow! Gordon didn't have time to answer as Thomas was soon up pieing Annie and Charabel and then he passed quickly away.



• same con. part  
→ He's dressed rude  
• ashamed, fee, one as & then  
he's dressed rude? they're dressed,  
etc. etc.





They had great respect for Gordon the big engine. You mustn't be rude now make us ashamed they kept telling Thomas. But Thomas didn't care a bit.

'That was funny that was funny' he chuckled telling very pleased with himself.

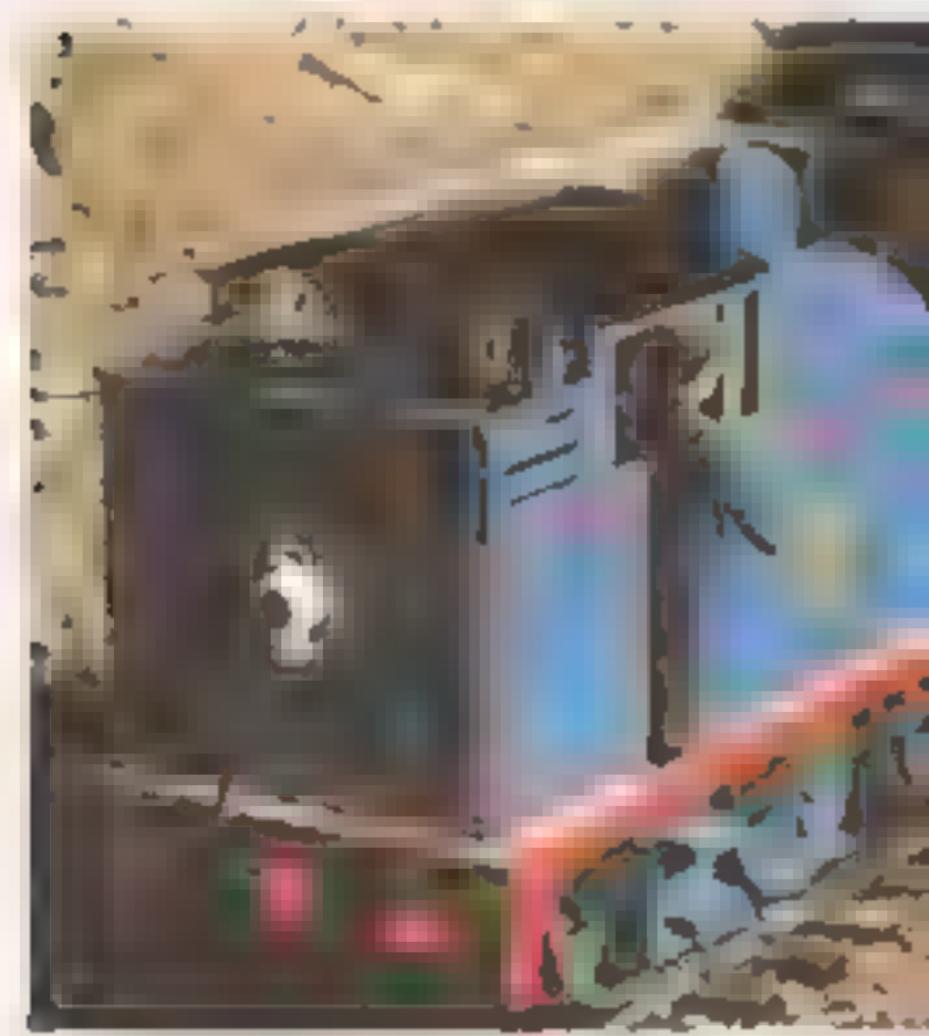
Thomas left the coaches at the station and went off to a mine for some trucks.



Long ago miners digging for lead had made tunnels under the ground. The tunnel roofs were strong enough to hold trucks but they could not take the weight of the heavy engines.

A large notice said DANGER  
ENGINES MUST NOT PASS THIS POINT

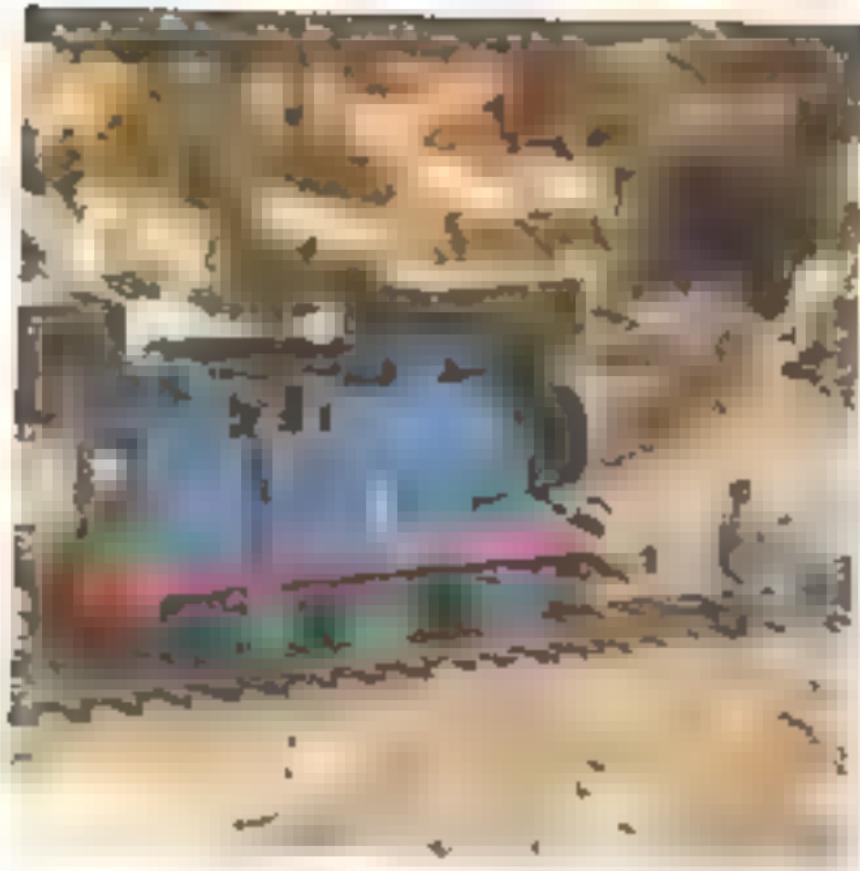
Thomas had been warned but he  
didn't care. He had often tried to pass  
the sign before but had never succeeded.  
He knew the rules, he had to push.



empty trucks into one siding and wait  
for two or three from another.

This morning he laughed as he parked  
along. He had made a plan. . . .  
board he said to himself getting nearer  
and nearer to the danger sign.





The driver stopped him and the  
man went to turn the points. Now for  
the plan said Thomas and he bumped  
the trucks fierce, jerking the driver off  
the footplate!

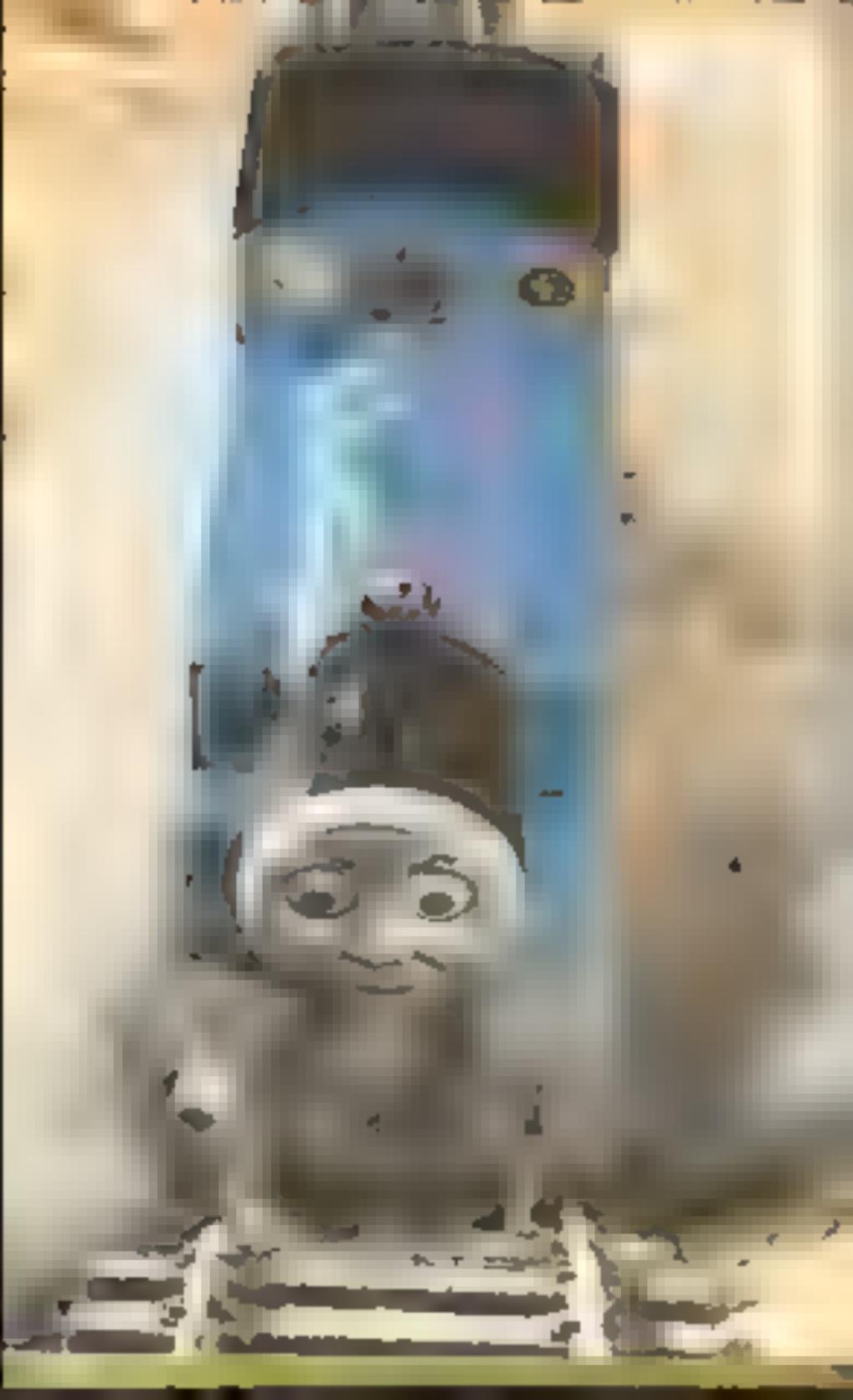
Hurrah said Thomas as he followed  
the trucks into a siding.

Come back called his driver. But it  
was too late.

'Stupid old board!' said Thomas as he ran past it. 'There's no danger! There's no danger!'

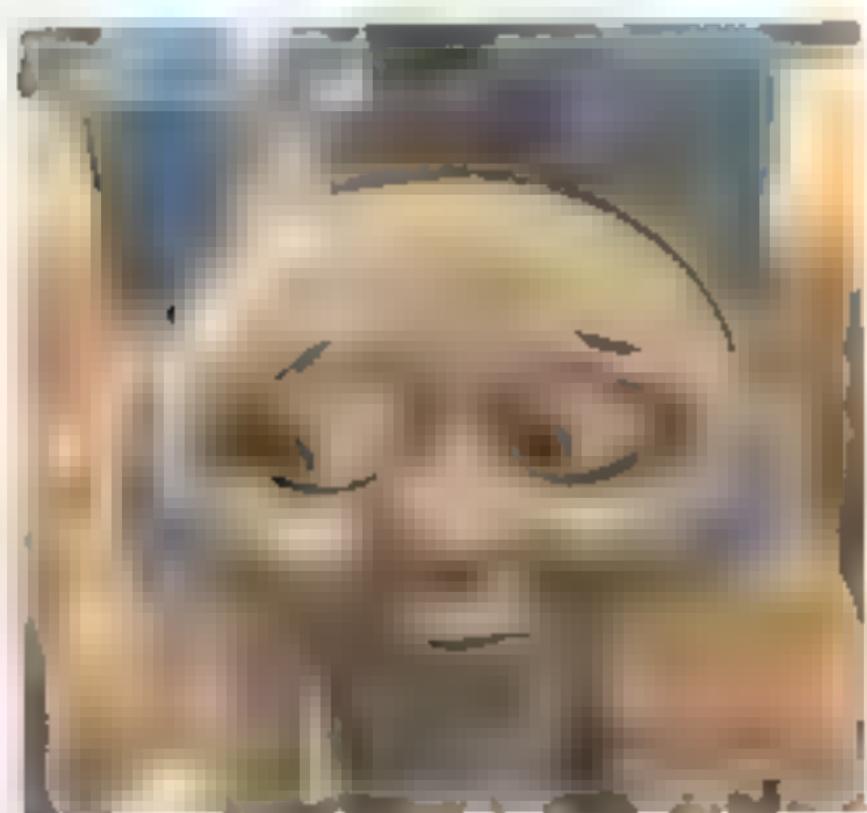
'Look out!' cried the driver. The fireman clambered into the cab and tried Thomas's brakes.





There was a rumbling noise and the rails quivered. The fireman jumped clear. Then the rails sagged and broke.

"Fire and smoke!" said Thomas. "I'm sunk!" ... and he was! Thomas could just see out of the hole but he couldn't move. "Oh dear!" he said. "I am a silly engine."



And a very naughty one too," said the Fat Controller who had just arrived. "I saw you!"

Please get me out I won't be naughty again said Thomas

I'm not sure said the Fat Controller  
We can't lift you out with a crane  
because the ground is not firm enough  
Hmm let me see I wonder if Gordon  
could pull you out



Yes sir said Thomas nervously He  
did I want to see Gordon just yet





When Gordon heard about Thomas he laughed very loudly. Down a mine is he? Ho! He He! What a joke. What a joke he chortled putting quickly to the rescue

'Poop Poop Little Thomas' Gordon whisued. 'We'll have you out in a couple of pulls. Poop Poop Poop'

The men fastened strong cables between Gordon and Thomas



'Are you ready? HEAVE!' called the  
engineer.

'They didn't pull Thomas out in two,  
it was a lot harder than they had



all thought. Gordon worked hard but it took a long time to finally pull Thomas out of the hole.





"I'm sorry I was cheeky," said Thomas.

"That's all right, Thomas," said Gordon. "You made me laugh!" Thomas was very pleased that Gordon was not angry with him any more.

Thomas's fire had gone out so he needed a pull back to the station. "Can we go together?" asked Thomas.

"Of course we can," said Gordon. "I'll pull you back."

"Thank you very much," said Thomas. And buffer to buffer the two friends puffed home.





## Series 848 Thomas the Tank Engine and Friends

*Titles in this Series (Two stories in each book)*

- 1 *Percy runs away/Thomas and the breakdown train*
- 2 *Thomas goes fishing/James and the troublesome trucks*
- 3 *Thomas and Terence/James and the tar wagons*
- 4 *Thomas and Bertie/Thomas down the mine*
- 5 *Toby and the stout gentleman/Thomas in trouble*
- 6 *Edward, Gordon and Henry/Gordon off the rails*

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